FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 SEPTEMBER 1984

Jordan

Renewed Egyptian Relations — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat explained in comments broadcast by Amman radio that the restoration of diplomatic relations with Egypt is an "advanced political decision" which "entrenches Arab solidarity" and attempts to end the "state of paralysis" prevailing over the "Arab march." Concerning the possibility of negative reactions to the decision, he stated that Jordan will let the "Arab peoples' unanimity decide them." Meanwhile, in a statement carried by MENA, the Egyptian Presidency affirmed that Egypt "welcomes" the decision as an "important step toward strengthening Arab solidarity." Furthermore, Egypt hopes "everyone" will avoid "maneuvering and outbidding" in this regard. Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali stressed in a statement to the agency that the decision is a "positive" one that embodies the "reality of the fraternal ties" between the two peoples, and this "joint effort" will play a role in achieving peace in the Middle East. Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali stated during a news conference reported by MENA that the decision is an "extremely positive step" in the Arab interest. He also pointed out that there is no connection between Arab reconciliation and bilateral relations with Israel. As for Israel, senior political sources in Jerusalem cited by the Tel Aviv paper *HA'ARETZ* expressed "satisfaction" over the decision, which attests to the weakening of the PLO.

However, the PLO representative in Cairo welcomed the Jordanian decision as a "step in the right direction" that will have a "positive impact" on the Arab future and the Arab cause, MENA reported. A Fatah official in Cairo added that the decision is a "positive step" which should be followed by "other steps." On the other hand, a PLO Executive Committee spokesman in Damascus viewed the decision as a "blatant violation" of Arab summit resolutions and as an "exceptionally dangerous move," Damascus radio noted. He urged "all popular and official Arab forces" to "thwart" the move, which cannot possibly help achieve a just solution to the Palestine question. In a statement issued in Damascus and cited by SANA, the Palestinian Democratic Alliance declared that the move requires "immediate action" to restore the PLO's unity, and stressed the need for "confronting" the step and taking the "necessary measures to deter" Jordan.

Along these lines, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi telephoned the Moroccan and Syrian leaders concerning the Jordanian decision, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio disclosed. He maintained that measures for "material and moral punishment" against Jordan must be taken. In a statement carried by JANA, the Libyan Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison called for the application against Jordan of the same resolutions applied against Egypt. Regarding such calls, the Algerian Foreign Ministry suggested the convening of an "Arab consultation" to discuss the issue, Algiers radio reported citing a Foreign Ministry statement.

'Arafat Visit — King Husayn and Prime Minister 'Ubaydat received a PLO delegation led by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Amman radio reported. The talks dealt with the latest developments in the Arab region and with developing coordination between Jordan and the PLO on a number of Palestinian issues, the radio added citing a palace source.

Murphy Visit — Husayn and 'Ubaydat received U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, Amman radio reported. The talks focused on the current problems in the Middle East, especially the Lebanese problem, the radio added.

Lebanon

Security — A car-bomb explosion in the Al-Dawrah area of East Beirut caused "casualties," KUNA reported. The clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio claimed that the explosion was the result of a technical error by Phalangist sappers, who were planting explosives in the car for detonation in the western part of the city. Meanwhile, intermittent clashes continued between the Army and opposition forces in the 'Aytat-Suq al-Gharb area, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. In the north, Tripoli was calm following the successful implementation of the security plan, Beirut radio noted.

Conclave Sessions — The Cabinet has decided to establish an emergency committee for the south comprising representatives of the Phalangists, the Liberal Party, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Amal Movement, Beirut radio disclosed in a report on the Cabinet conclaves in Bikfayya. The ministers also agreed to increase the size of the new Chamber of Deputies to 122 members, the radio said.

Iran

Protest to Afghanistan — The Foreign Ministry has protested to Afghanistan over the latter's recent "feeble activities" on the border with Iran, Tehran radio announced. Noting that an incident last week near Zabol resulted in loss of life and property, the Foreign Ministry warned the DRA that Iran will react decisively to any repetition of such incidents.

Tehran Explosions — Three people were injured by two car-bomb explosions in Tehran, IRNA reported. The agency described the bombings as a "desperate move by counterrevolutionary elements."

War Policy — Iran's most important condition for an end to the war with Iraq is punishment of the aggressor and it will make no concessions on this issue whatever the price, President 'Ali Khamene'i stated in remarks reported by IRNA. Meanwhile, Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi disclosed that Iran is preparing to produce oil from the captured Iraqi oilfield on the Majnun Islands, according to another IRNA report.

Maghreb Affairs

Moroccan and Libyan officials signed an agreement on security issues and the movement of individuals between the two countries, Rabat radio announced. The agreement specifies the legal framework for cooperation in security matters and also abolishes the system of visas for travel between the two countries.

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Karmal Speaks on 'Revolutionary Legality'

LD260936 [Editorial report] Kabul Domestic Service in Dari at 1630 GMT on 22 September carries a 95-minute recording of a speech delivered by Babrak Karmal at a session of the DRA Revolutionary Council held in Kabul on 21 September. Introducing the speech, the announcer says that the Revolutionary Council discussed and approved at the session the improvement of legal procedures and the consolidation of revolutionary legality in the DRA.

Karmal begins his speech by saying that under the difficult conditions of the undeclared war, the most important tasks facing Afghans at present are the "further unity of the patriotic, revolutionary, and democratic forces in the country in order to crush armed counterrevolution, the consolidation of revolutionary legality, maintaining peace and security, and the attainment of vital socio-economic and cultural goals."

Blaming the present tense situation on the United States, its NATO partners, Chinese hegemonists, Pakistani militarists, and Iranian reactionaries, Karmal says that despite this, Afghanistan wants peace and good relations with its neighbors, adding: "On our part, the way for a solution is open. Our neighbors have this opportunity at hand, and they can, using a healthy rationale, show their good intentions in deeds, not in talk, and prove they are interested in eliminating tensions and consolidating peaceful relations" with the DRA.

Karmal notes that the purpose of the meeting is to set up a militant program to create a new and just society in Afghanistan by compiling new democratic laws. These laws, Karmal says, must meet the demands of all the workers and people of Afghanistan. Since the PDPA is the leading force of the state, the party policy also demands the adoption and observance of these laws.

He goes on to cite examples of legal documents adopted after the April revolution, laws that "regulate matters related to the state, economy, finance, work, social security, public health, education, culture, defense, the struggle against counterrevolution, and the consolidation of order and legality." He expresses his certainty that the laws adopted by the state "are indicative of the will and interests of the workers and people." He announces that in the near future the council will embark on the compilation of other laws which will anable the further participation of the country's workers in the administration of the state and the society. He explains that compilation of laws is a difficult enterprise and admits that mistakes were made in the early stages of the revolution, and that "in order to compensate for these blunders committed we were forced to bring about considerable changes and amendments to several documents and decrees such as those concerning land reform, agriculture, and others."

Karmal states that the rule of the PDPA as the nucleus of the political system and the leading force in Afghan society has grown substantially and this should be reflected in the legal documents. The party, he says, "is resolutely determined to establish revolutionary legality and revolutionary order throughout the country." Citizens should correctly realize their rights and make rational use of them, but they should not forget they have obligations too. Everyone has to understand that the prosperity of the revolution is a major guarantee of these rights.

He goes on to say that officials should explain to people their rights and obligations, and notes that "trust and confidence among our people is being strengthened now that lawbreaking is being irreversibly eliminated from our society. Even the most dangerous criminals and convicts are being punished in accordance with the provisions of the law." However, Karmal cautions, no one should see this humanitarian behavior as a sign of weakness: "We have sufficient means in the country with which to defend the homeland and revolution."

Karmal then speaks in some detail about the national economy and the responsibility of the government departments concerned, then criticizing them for their poor planning. He says: "There are many facts and figures that attest to the lack of the necessary awareness, feeling, and responsibility among department heads in observing the interests of the state and people (?enshrined) in socio-economic growth plans. Some ministries put forward their proposals in such a way that they do not correspond to the goals sought, that is, the revival and reconstruction and growth of the industrial sectors." Some ministries and departments, he says, are not observing the law. There is "uneconomical use of budgeted funds, embezzlement of social (?allocations), and direct (?usurpation) of state property. Law and legality should be used to fight this corruption."

Karmal speaks about the labor law and urges the Council of Ministers to take the necessary steps so that no one breaks it, because the party cannot tolerate arbitrariness from anyone: "We must begin by observing the law at the top so that the lower ranks will follow suit."

Karmal then talks about a government resolution concerning the improvement of legal publicity and the legal training of the people. The resolution provides for newspapers, radio, and television officials to report views and news about the importance of revolutionary laws. Though this resolution has been in force for 1 1/2 years, in practice, nothing has been done so far, he says, adding: "This is an example of evading work and the failure to execute instructions of the high organs of state sovereignty and administration. The Revolutionary Council Presidium and the Council of Ministers must investigate the matter."

On law enforcement, Karmal says that a relentless war will be fought against every kind of disruption of order and law: "Traitors to the homeland, terrorists, bandits, murderers, highway robbers, and all those who consciously damage the interests of the people and the cause of the revolution cannot expect to be pardoned or have their sentences reduced. No mercy will be shown to them; they will be relentlessly crushed and punished."

Karmal concludes by listing the duties of all law enforcement departments and instructing them on the severity of sentences for criminals and counterrevolutionaries.

BAKHTAR Scores Reagan Policies, Campaign
LD260839 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Kabul, BAKHTAR, September 25 — During the presidential elections in the USA, the candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties try their best to put forward hollow promises to the electors. Thus, they intend to win more votes in their interests, writes *HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR*.

Reagan has based his election campaign programme on the notion as if the development of the U.S. economy is satisfactory and everything goes on as it should be.

The facts at hand clearly demonstrate that Reagan's deeds contrast his words. The U.S. economic condition is based on destabilizing factors. Right now, more than 8 million U.S. citizens suffer from chronic unemployment. The Reagan administration intends to increase expenditures on military hardwares to the astronomical figure of 300 million U.S. dollars till 1985. This happens at a time when 5 million Americans live under the poverty line. Thus, it puts new burdens on the shoulders of U.S. working people.

The focal-point of the U.S. foreign policy is composed of terroristic actions aimed at gaining military-strategic supremacy over the socialist countries, the Soviet Union at the forefront. Moreover the U.S. ruling circles through claiming vast areas of the world as the sphere of its "vital interests", intensifying its interventions in the internal affairs of sovereign countries, whipping up the arms race, the nuclear arms in particular, exacerbated the world situation to an unprecedented scale.

Political Observer on Relations With USSR
LD260850 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Kabul, September 25, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BIA writes:

The recent message by Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to Finnish peoples on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the armistice agreement with Finland once again proved the Soviet Union's peaceful co-existence policy and is friendly ties with its neighbours.

After the victory of October Socialist revolution, the Soviet Union [word indistinct] policy of peaceful co-existence and built a lasting principled politic-socio-economic relationships with its neighbours having different social systems.

Konstantin Chernenko, in his message has pointed out that friendship, cultural trust and fruitful cooperation have become the essence of Soviet-Finnish relations. They were and remain immune to the vagaries of the world political climate.

The victory of October Revolution and its impact on the emancipation of the countries of the East and the recognition of the independence and sovereignty of Afghanistan by the first socialist countries of the world laid the foundations of Afghan-Soviet good neighbourliness. This friendly and fraternal relations were stepped up after the victory of the April revolution 1978. [sentence as received]

The supporters of peaceful co-existence including the DRA and Finland pay heed to the peaceful stand taken by the party and the state of the DRA.

The people of Afghanistan pay great homage to the statement of Lenin, the founder of the Soviet Union who had said that the Soviet Union consistently and unflaggingly pursue a policy of good neighbourliness with all the countries of the East, first of all, with Afghanistan. Thus, the people of the DRA believe that no power exists in the world to disrupt this relationship.

Barialay, Delegation Return From Ethiopia, Poland
LD262122 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, returned today at the head of a party delegation that had travelled to Ethiopia at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Ethiopia to take part in the constituent congress of that party.

After completing the visit to Ethiopia, Barialay and the delegation visited Poland at the invitation of the Polish United Workers Party. During the visit he held a series of talks on expanding cooperation between the PDPA and PZPR.

Zohur Razmjo, candidate-member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and PDPA party secretary for Kabul City; Niaz Mohammad Mohmand, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; as well as deputy heads of the International Relations Department of the Central Committee and the deputy chief for protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs welcomed Mahmud Barialay and his entourage at Kabul International Airport.

Clandestine Radio on Mujahidin Operations
GF261826 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Pashto 1700 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] In continuation of the Muslim mujahidin operations in Kabul city, the mujahidin recently attacked the Karmal radio-television building with rockets and inflicted heavy damage on that center. However, a detailed report on the amount of damage inflicted on the building has not been received as yet. Listeners are reminded that the government buildings are being heavily guarded by tanks and soldiers of the Karmal puppet government and the Soviet Army. The Karmal radio-television center was also damaged recently by mujahidin rockets.

It may be mentioned here that the Soviet-Karmal regime radio has in recent days intensified its propaganda against our Muslim mujahidin. The radio has been broadcasting lists of our Muslim mujahidin who have been martyred at the hands of Soviet-Karmal soldiers. This is being done to scare our people.

Our Muslim mujahidin in a recent attack fired on the aircraft parked at the central hangar of the Kabul Airport. As a result of

this attack a bitter exchange of gunfire took place between the forces guarding the airport and the Muslim mujahidin. According to another report the Muslim mujahidin attacked the residence of the commerce minister of the puppet Karmal regime and inflicted some damage.

We are still waiting for detailed information on the above two attacks.

According to another report, our Muslim mujahidin, in completely coordinated action, hit various spots in Kabul Province, including an attack on the Wazir Akbar Khan locality in Kabul, which is used as a residential area by the Soviet advisory staff, and inflicted damage.

SPA: Mujahidin Clash With Soviet-Karmal Troops

LD262106 Riyadh SPA in English 1914 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] London, Sept 26, SPA — Fierce clashes are reported to have taken place between Afghan freedom fighters and the Soviet-Karmal troops in Afghanistan's four provinces, including the mineral-rich province of Jowzjan, where the conscription campaign was in full swing.

The AFGHAN PRESS AGENCY said the affected provinces were Samangan, Bamiyan and Nimruz.

The clashes were the result of stiff resistance put up by the freedom fighters against the conscription campaign.

Till August 22, the agency said more than 200 youths were arrested in Jowzjan Province in line with the Kabul regime's forced conscription campaign.

The agency said the mujahidin had blasted the gas pipeline leading to Mazar-e Sharif, the capital of Balkh Province.

The production of fertilizer factory in Mazar-e Sharif was badly affected due to the blast, it added.

Briefs

Highway Contract With USSR — Kabul, September 22, BAKHTAR: A contract of reconstruction of Kabul-Hairatan highway was signed between the Ministry of Public Work of the DRA and Institute of Techno-Export of the USSR. According to the contract over 3 million ruble worth of road repairing equipments will be purchased from the Soviet Union. Kabul-Hairatan is the main highway which connects Kabul and several other cities of DRA, with Soviet Union. [Text] *[Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0429 GMT 23 Sep 84 LD]*

Ershad Promises Relaxed Martial Law, Elections

BK270200 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad has said steps will be announced shortly on further relaxing martial law and ensuring free and fair elections. The president was talking to members of Radio Bangladesh program officers welfare association who came to Banga Bhavan [president's house] yesterday to donate money to the president's relief fund for the flood-affected people. President Ershad said he is determined to lift martial law within the quickest possible time and added: I have already proved my sincerity in this regard. He reminded all concerned that it was not possible to wind up the nation-wide network of martial law overnight. History, he pointed out, had no such example.

The president said that his government had been fulfilling the commitment it had made to the nation in letter and spirit. In doing so, his government had ignored many unpleasant incidents in the political arena despite the fact that there is still martial law and the present government is a martial law government. He said his government had initiated the process of transition to democracy much before one could think of hartal [strike] or any such movement. The steps to be announced would be the continuation of the fulfillment of those commitments.

President Ershad pointed out that election schedule had already been announced to hasten the process of transition to demcoracy in a peaceful way. Elections were the only means of getting the verdict of the people, he emphasized.

The president referred to the unprecedented floods that had gripped the country and said never before in the history of the nation the people were subjected to such a devastating natural calamity. The government had been doing its utmost to mitigate the sufferings of the flood-hit people. He said all of us, especially the political leaders and well-to-do sections of the society, should come forward to help the distressed people. The government has been keeping the people informed about the flood situation, relief operations and post-flood rehabilitation programs through newspapers, radio and television. He praised the role of newspapers, radio and television in this regard and said measures have been taken to accelerate the relief operations to make it more effective.

President Ershad said in these circumstances hartal or similar activities would bring more miseries to the distressed people, especially the poor toiling masses. We all love our country and want the welfare of the people. He posed a question: If that is so, then is it the time to observe hartal? The president said when the country is in the grip of devastating floods and when steps should be taken to make up the loss of property and crop, the hartal call is not only unfortunate but also an act of pity. [as heard]The president asked: Will the distressed and helpless people forgive such activities? Have those who call for hartal forgotten that observance of hartal at this hour of natural calamity will harm the interest of the people and the country? He said elections are a way to know the verdict of the people and what they want. President Ershad expressed the hope that everyone irrespective of opinions and party affliation would come forward to maintain peace and normal life in the greater national interest at this hour of unprecedented natural calamity instead to taking recourse to negative measures like hartal.

Cabinet Changes Possible

BK261612 Hong Kong AFP in English 1602 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Dhaka, Sept 26 (AFP) — Political observers said the president's unscheduled remarks were a last minute attempt to pacify the opposition parties on the eve of the strike.

It came on top of speculation in political and press circles today that Gen. Ershad, who came to power in a coup in March 1982, might announce new plan to exclude political and Janadal Party ministers from his Cabinet to give a neutral colour to his military government.

There was also speculation that he might firmly re-impose martial law regulations and other drastic action if the opposition showdown tomorrow took violent turn.

Delhi: Opposition Leader Killed in Dhaka Strike

BK271251 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, a prominent opposition leader was killed and several hundred others injured in the clashes between the supporters and opponents of President General Ershad in Dhaka today. Violence erupted during the countrywide general strike call given by the main opposition 15 and 7-party alliances. Police made lathi [baton] charge against the demonstrators who hit back by hurling stones. At least 18 policemen were injured. Private and public vehicles, including cycle rickshaws, were off the road in Dhaka City. Shops and business establishments were closed. International flights from Dhaka Airport were postponed. About 400 people have been arrested in Dhaka.

The opposition parties are campaigning for the lifting of martial law and formation of a neutral government to supervise the elections to be held on the 8th of December.

Dhaka, Other Cites Paralyzed

BK270356 Hong Kong AFP in English 0343 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Etxt] Dhaka, Sept 27 (AFP) — Dhaka and other Bangladeshi cities were virtually paralysed today as a 12-hour opposition general strike against General Hussain Mohammad Ershad's military regime got underway peacefully, organisers said.

In Dhaka, eyewitnesses said there was no response to early morning attempts by government-backed Janadal strike-breakers to bring vehicles out on the streets under strong police protection.

In a minor incident a group of armed Janadal supporters hurled stones at the headquarters of the Communist Party CPB, a component of the opposition 15-party alliance, in Purana Paltan, an eyewitness said, unable to give any indication of damage or injury.

Hundreds of thousands of people walked along traffic-free streets to report to their offices and places of work. The government had earlier ordered officials to stay in their offices overnight or to go to work on foot.

The port city of Chittagong also responded to the strike call and the streets were free of traffic with port activity suspended, an official today told AFP.

Heavy police mobilisation in capital was made in key and possible trouble points but there was no immediate report of violence.

The dawn-to-dusk strike popularly known as "hartal" has been called by the two major opposition alliances of 22 parties and the rightist Jamait-i-Islam group to press their demand for a lifting of martial law.

The groups insist that the proposed December 8 parliamentary election be held under non-party and caretaker government.

Tension has been mounting since last week as Gen. Ershad and ministers publicly announced that the government would not tolerate the opposition's unrest and violent methods particularly at a time when the country was faced with devastating floods.

Mahbubur Rahman, minister for local government and secretary general of Janadal Tuesday threatened strong resistance unless the opposition 15-party alliance and seven-party combine called off the proposed strike — the second in a month.

Rival processionists clashed yesterday in southern Faridpur District, leaving 11 civilians and a policeman injured, two opposition party offices were ransacked but bids to set them on fire were thwarted, reports said.

Authorities Tuesday ordered the closure of all the capital's schools and colleges until October 7 since students normally rank among the main agitators in strikes called by opposition.

The country's six universities have gone on vacation until early next month and in most places students have been ordered to vacate halls apprehending troubles.

Yesterday saw a few early opposition processions in support of the strike, but the capital appeared relatively calm with very light traffic on the roads.

Observers said many public transport vehicle owners yesterday stored their vehicles in garages fearing violence during today's strike.

Seven-party alliance leader Begum Khaleda Zia at a public meeting near Dhaka yesterday accused the government of engineering a confrontation.

In an oblique reference to Gen Ershad, she said the country would not "accept the sufferings of 100 million people only for a man."

Shaykh Hasina Wajed who heads the 15-party alliance told a rally in northern Jamalpur district that the opposition would continue its movement until establishment of a representative government through free and fair elections.

She blamed the government for creating chaos in the country by involving the Armed Forces in politics and using them as means to grab power.

Reports on Striking Pilots Denied

BK261157 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 0900 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The Bangladesh Biman today resumes its flights to Calcutta, Katmandu, Singapore, Muscat and Jeddah. The 176 stranded hajj passengers are expected to return home today.

A Bangladesh Biman press communique says that 5 of its flights to Jeddah operated in the past 4 days and returned 702 stranded hajjpassengers home. The other 364 passengers returned to Bangladesh in a hired Saudi Airline plane.

The communique denies the truth of press reports appearing in some newspapers that the striking pilots and navigators contacted Biman management authorities yesterday in response to the call made by President Ershad. The Biman authorities said that the executive cells of the Bangladesh Airlines Pilots Association or the Flight Engineers and Navigators Association did not contact them, and thus the question of failure in negotiations does not arise.

Gandhi Urges Saudi King To Help End Gulf War

BK261059 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The prime minister has urged King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to intensify the efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war. In a letter to the Saudi king, Mrs Gandhi said the prolonged war between the two countries has threatened the security of Asia as some forces are keen to take advantage of the situation. The letter was delivered to the Saudi king recently by a 3-member Indian goodwill delegation.

The prime minister also expressed the hope that India and Saudi Arabia can play an effective role in bringing about peace in the world, particularly in West Asia, she said [as heard].

Gandhi Calls for Restoration of Unity in Punjab

BK261609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The prime minister has called for concerted efforts by all communities to restore unity and harmony in Punjab. Mrs Gandhi was addressing a delegation of citizens of Delhi which called on her at her residence this morning. The delegation congratulated the prime minister on the decision to withdraw the Army from the Golden Temple. She said in the life of nations, occasions arise when feelings get hurt and unless everyone makes a conscious effort for the healing touch, unity and harmony could not prevail in the country.

Mrs Gandhi said the problem in Punjab and other border states arises from the attitude adopted by external forces, which do not like the progress made by India. The prime minister pointed out that the country's long borders have to be protected. The people, especially the border states of Assam, Punjab, and Rajasthan, have to be vigilant against divisive forces, Mrs Gandhi said.

The delegation was led by Mr Vishwa Bandhu Gupta, member of parliament.

Army Abuse of Civilians at Golden Temple Denied

BK261332 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] A Defense Ministry spokesman has described as baseless certain newspaper reports which appeared recently on the Army action in Golden Temple complex alleging that women and children were manhandled or treated with little regard for their sex and age. The spokesman said the allegations are aimed at maligning the Indian Army. Indian soldiers, he said, are well-known for their restraint and for the esteem they show for our people, including women and children. He said authorities of the Punjab government have also repudiated the press report about beating up of children in Ludhiana jail.

Sikh Priests Withdraw Decree Against President

BK270330 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Text] The [Sikh] head priests have withdrawn the hukumnama [decree] against the president, Giani Zail Singh, which had declared him guilty of religious misconduct. The priests took the decision in Amritsar yesterday.

Mirdha Meets With USSR's Gromyko in New York

BK261027 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Ram Niwas Mirdha, met the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Gromyko, at the Soviet mission in New York yesterday. The two ministers exchanged views on international problems of mutual interest.

Mr Gromyko expressed appreciation of India's role as chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement. He said his country will do everything for curbing the arms race, strengthening the foundation of world peace, and removing the threat of nuclear war.

Ziaul Haq Cited on Gulf War, Afghanistan

PM261147 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 22 Sep 84 pp 1,8

['Adil Salahi report: "Ziaul Haq Tells *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: Only a Miracle Can Stop the Iraq-Iran War"]

[Excerpt] Islamabad — Pakistani President Ziaul Haq has reaffirmed that Islamic unity is the only way to regain Jerusalem because such unity would mean mobilization of 25 percent of the world's population behind this sacred cause.

In an interview with *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* President Ziaul Haq added that until this unity is achieved we will continue to struggle as Muslims for the liberation of the Al Aqsa Mosque. The Jews, he said, cannot keep the Muslim holy city forever because that is not what the Koran says. He added: They may occupy Jerusalem for 10, 20 or even 100 years but they will eventually be defeated and Jerusalem will be liberated.

The Pakistani president said that in his view there is no end in sight for the Iraq-Iran war unless a divine miracle occurs, but the Islamic Good Offices Committee will continue its efforts to promote a peaceful settlement.

He pointed out that the efforts to end this war peacefully have been stumbling because there is no political desire to settle the crisis. He added: Unless both warring parties want a settlement nobody can stop them fighting. He added that during his contacts within the Islamic peace committee he found Iraq and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn more flexible without going all the way to end the war and he found Iran intransigent.

On the Afghan resistance against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, the Pakistani president said that unity of the Afghan resistance groups is moving toward complete success. He added that the organizations, once totaling 30, have been merged into 2 and that the differences between the 2 groups are over the methods, not the final objective of liberating Afghanistan.

President Ziaul Haq stressed that the Afghan problem cannot be solved militarily, and that includes the present struggle of the Afghan mujahidin. The problem, he said, cannot be solved in that way alone but the struggle and the military way are beneficial in that they expose the dimensions of the problem and underline the need for a settlement. The basic solution is political. The Afghan problem can only be solved politically, he said.

President Ziaul Haq also spoke about the application of Islamic laws in Pakistan. He emphasized that there is no opposition to the Islamic course and that this course will never be abandoned. He said that the Islamic Students Society in Pakistan was dissolved because it was politically motivated and because it was part of the Islamic group which is a political party.

He said that he believes that Pakistan should only have one party upholding Islam. He said that Pakistan's new system of government is based on two authorities, one of them executive and the other judicial.

Comments on Islamic Democracy

BK270425 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has said the country is now moving in the right direction to establish a political system based on Islamic principles as envisioned by Allama Iqbal [a philosopher poet]. He was inaugurating the Allama Iqbal Museum in Lahore this evening. He said that Allama Iqbal was an advocate of Islamic democracy as he believed that Islam is a perfect code of life for Muslims.

The president reiterated that democracy would be restored in the country and the program announced by him is being implemented in phases. But, he said this democracy would be in accordance with the requirements of Islam as visualized by the great poet philosopher. The country's economic and judicial systems would also be based on Islamic principles.

Earlier, talking to newsmen on arrival in Lahore this afternoon, the president said Pakistan is following the path of peace in its relations with India and it is their efforts that there should be no conflict between the two countries.

Replying to a question about the possibility of reallocation of seats or an amendment in the Constitution for the forthcoming elections in the light of the 1981 census, the president said neither would the Constitution be amended for that purpose nor would the seats be increased. Clarifying the position, he said since these would actually be reelections of the 1977 elections which were not accepted, there was no need to amend the Constitution or to take 1981 census into consideration.

Replying to a question about certain cases being tried in the military court, the president gave the assurance that justice would be done to all whether they were tried in civil or military courts. He, however, said the elements involved in antinational and antistate crimes should get punishment according to the nature of their crimes.

The president has now returned to Rawalpindi

Yaqub Khan Meets Counterparts in New York

BK261211 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Bilateral relations, regional situation, Afghanistan question, and Iran-Iraq war have been discussed at meetings between the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and his counterparts from France, Turkey, Finland, and Argentina in New York.

The foreign minister and his French counterpart, Mr Claude Cheysson, expressed the hope that bilateral relations between Pakistan and France would continue to expand, particularly in the fields of communications and oil exploration.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan discussed the Gulf conflict with the Turkish foreign minister, Mr Vihit Halefoglu, and briefed him

on the situation in Afghanistan. They agreed to keep in touch on a regular basis.

The Finnish foreign minister, Mr Paavo Vayrynen, was also briefed on the situation in Afghanistan and the recently-concluded Geneva talks at his own request.

The Argentinian foreign minister, Mr Dante Caputo, expressed his country's support for Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan also met the former U.S. president, Mr Richard Nixon, in New York, who supported the position taken by Pakistan on Afghanistan and its efforts to promote a better environment in the region. Mr Nixon also expressed his satisfaction at the progress that Pakistan continues to make.

Karachi JASARAT Views Threat From India

GF211326 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 16 Sep 84 p 3

[Editorial: "The Threat of Indian Aggression — What Should the Government Do About It?"]

[Text] According to a major Indian daily, the Indian Foreign Ministry is contemplating the withdrawal of India's ambassador from Pakistan. The paper says that this move has been prompted by the recent hijacking of the Indian aircraft as well as occurrences in east Punjab in which Pakistan is said to have been involved.

Such news reflects Mrs Indira Gandhi's desire to cloud Indian relations with Pakistan. To be frank, Indira Gandhi is searching for excuses to attack Pakistan; a war between India and Pakistan may come within the next few months. Mrs Gandhi believes that the time for aggression is right, with the Americans busily engaged in their presidential elections with little time for anything else. She believes that India, at such a time, would be able at least to capture the geographically and strategically important areas in Kashmir, and that in this move India would enjoy the full support of the Soviet Union, because relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union are already strained these days and the Karmal government is already engaged in aggressive acts on the Pakistani border, not without the Soviet blessing. She believes India could benefit from such conditions. If the present opportunity so offered is missed by India, it is possible that any later improvement or appearance of detente between India and Pakistan will prevent the recurrence of a similar opportunity.

India believes that in view of the present international situation and conditions within Pakistan, it can benefit if it acts in time. Another reason for such thinking is the unrest and disturbances within India which are getting out of hand for Mrs Gandhi. This situation can be saved only by creating conditions of war. This is why Indira's government favors creating tensions with Pakistan. The fact is that the methods being employed by Mrs Gandhi's government to achieve this objective could develop into a very dangerous situation within the next few weeks. However, the Government of Pakistan and Pakistani statesmen are quite aware of the developments in this direction. All know that Mrs Gandhi's belligerency is nearing its peak and that she is capable of adopting a most dangerous course in order to have her way.

The whole of the Pakistani nation is quite aware of the need for national security. Although the present government has repeatedly assured the public that Pakistan is quite ready for its defense, there are apprehensions among the public which should be removed. In order to achieve this objective, the government must establish contacts with all the political elements within the country. The government should allow these elements to enter the arena and join in defense-oriented activities. The government cannot weather this threat to the nation alone; it needs the backing of the whole nation. No doubt our Armed Forces are strong, yet the Armed Forces alone are not enough. What we need today is the unity of the whole nation in defense against the Indian threat. The whole nation should raise one voice and convince India that there is no soft spot in the whole of Pakistan where India could make a dent. To achieve this objective, the government must take the politicians into confidence and inform them of the true situation that exists today. The government must consult national politicians and public representatives.

Khamene'i Addresses Various Groups on Current Issues

Tehran IRGC

LD261654 Tehran IRNA in English 1528 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept 26 IRNA — President Khamene'i said if the conditions of the Islamic Republic for peace are met, the Islamic forces will cease fighting, otherwise they will go on paying the "price of independence and freedom."

Khamene'i also said while arrogant world powers want to "safeguard their strategic interests" in the region, the Islamic Republic has become "a centre of protest and opposition against them."

The president was speaking in the Wednesday's morning ceremony of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps at barracks in Tehran.

Khamene'i said the former regime built this country according to U.S. plans so as to safeguard their interests and give our national wealth to them.

Arrogant world powers, said Khamene'i, wanted to turn Iran into a consumer nation and went as far as turning Iran from a cereal producer to a purchaser of foreign wheat.

The president said the economic, political and social policies were dictated by the United States and national decision making, specially appointments in the Army, were made with U.S. advice.

But, Khamene'i added, it is a divine principle that if a people believe in something, they will achieve it. The firm leadership of Imam Khomeyni moved the masses and dealt a blow to the U.S. interest in the region.

Today, a country which the U.S. had heavily invested in has turned to a centre of protest and opposition to U.S. hegemony, he said.

On Iraqi-imposed war, Khamene'i said the Islamic Republic is paying the price for its independence and freedom. "When a nation, in a revolutionary move, destroys a regime supported by foreign powers, its enemies try to thwart its growth," he said.

"Our policy has been clear in this war; if they had accepted our conditions we would have ended the war, but they did not because it would uproot arrogant world powers from the region," he added. The "Islamic Republic's most important condition is the punishment of the aggressor and we shall not give concessions whatever the price," Khamene'i said.

Iraqi POW's

LD231124 Tehran IRNA in English 1115 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 23, IRNA — The president and head of the Supreme Defence Council, 'Ali Khamene'i, speaking to a group of Iraqi POW's, said here today that Iran regretted all of the losses suffered by both sides in the course of the four-year-old Iraqi-imposed war.

The president, who was speaking to POW's at Tehran's Heshmatieh camp on the second day of the "war week", added that the Iraqi ruler, Saddam Husayn, has been responsible for all the casualties and damages.

Further on the war, the president said that as long as Saddam Husayn and his clique of trouble makers were in power, there would be no hope for peace in the region.

On the prevalent state of suppression in Iraq, the president told the POW's that opponents of the Iraqi regime, as well as their families, were under harassment and faced execution and torture. This is the practice of the notorious tyrants, he added.

He further added that it was the responsibility of the people of Iran and Iraq to overthrow the Iraqi regime, and this would be achieved. He also referred to Saddam Husayn as a source of shame for the Arabs and said that those who are concerned with Arab dignity must mobilise their efforts to remove him.

The second day of the war week marks the day of the Islamic revolution of Iraq and campaign against world oppression.

Following the president's speech, one of the POW's presented him a petition signed by hundreds of the POW's, in which they expressed their willingness to go the warfronts and fight against the Iraqi forces.

The spokesman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, Hojjat ol-Eslam Muhammad Baqr Hakim, speaking in a ceremony, thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its humane treatment of Iraqi POW's.

Referring to atrocities of the Iraqi regime against the Muslims of Iraq, he said that in addition to martyring the vanguards of the Islamic revolution of Iraq, such as the late Ayatollah Muhammad Baqr Sadr, it has expelled a large number of Iraqi Muslims from the country and sent them to Iran. In order to save his regime, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim added, Saddam Husayn has resorted to all kinds of crimes, one of which was imposition of the war on Iran four years ago. He further added that the Muslim people of Iraq have never been interested in war and defection of the Iraqi forces to Iran was the best proof. By deploying chemical weapons against the Iranians, he added, the Iraqi regime thought in vain that it could force Iran to surrender. However, the Iranian people have firmly decided to fight off the Iraqi forces until the final victory. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim reiterated that the outcome of the Iraqi-imposed war will be for the benefit of Islam and Muslims at large. The Muslim people of Iran and Iraq would not accept anything other than an Islamic government in Iraq.

During the ceremony, a report on measures taken for the welfare of the Iraqi POW's was read. The report said that tens of thousands of Iraqi POW's living in Iran were considered guests of the Islamic Republic of Iran and were treated accordingly. The welfare programmes included educational, religious, athletic, artistic, medical and health care services. According to the report, some 164 schools have been built for the POW's and also arrangements have been made for 359 of POW's to visit with their families and 207 of them with their wives.

Air Force Graduates

LD252142 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept 25 IRNA — With the grace of God, the Air Force of the Islamic Republic is at one of its most successful periods ever, President 'Ali Khamene'i said in an address to graduates of the Air Force Command Academy Tuesday.

The president stressed that the Iranian people today were confident of the fact that the Armed Forces were free of corruption unlike during the rule of the monarchy. The head of the Supreme Defence Council called for greater efforts in attaining self-sufficiency in the military through innovations and self-confidence.

Before the president's remarks, Air Force Commander Colonel Hushang Seddiq said the Iranian Air Force was able to remain strong and capable without foreign specialists. He said more than 300 Iraqi war planes had been shot down since the start of the war four years ago. President Khamene'i handed out awards to the most outstanding graduates of the academy.

Military Industries Personnel

LD262358 Tehran IRNA in English 2005 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 26, IRNA — Speaking to a group of the visiting personnel of the military industries organisation here today, President Khamene'i stressed that the Islamic Republic does not advocate the idea of setting up an iron curtain between itself and the rest of the world, but it is decided to eliminate every token of dependence, of any sort, on any foreign country. He said one basic goal of the Islamic Revolution is to promote the talent and the ingenuity of the Iranian people and that the future of the revolution is based, among other things, on sincere efforts for reconstruction of the country.

President Khamene'i said he is pleased to have witnessed the post-revolution accomplishments of the military industries organisation, but that the accomplishments of the organisation do not make the government entirely satisfied. He said that the presence in the military industries of Iran of some 2,500 expatriate employees during the past regime was part of an imperialistic scheme for hindering the advancement of Iranian technicians in their own areas and for making their mental and (?intellectual capacity) to run idle.

He said the Islamic Revolution in Iran had waged a struggle against the Zionist government as far back as some 20 years ago [words indistinct] a certain wave in the foreign media constantly publish reports alleging that the Islamic Republic has been somehow profiting from the Al-Quds-occupying regime.

President Khamene'i said throughout Iraq's four-year war with Iran, the Islamic Republic has destroyed more than 3,000 enemy tanks and planes which have been replaced by both the superpowers. (?He) said the West as well as the Soviets have continuously provided missiles to the Baghdad regime so that it may exploit them for pounding Iranian towns and cities, while on the other hand the West and East refused to respect international customs in their dealings with the Islamic Republic, and thereby made it somehow tough for Iran to procure certain vital military equipment such as sophisticated parts for Iran's military aircraft. President Khamene'i reminded however, that although [at] the outbreak of the Iraqi-imposed war, Iran was militarily in a underprivileged status compared to the ruling government in Baghdad, today the Islamic Republic far excels Iraq in its military and defensive capacity.

Prime Minister Meets Envoys to Cuba, UAE, Madagascar

LD262137 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Messrs Fada'i-Fard, Madar-Shahi, and Nikunia. ambassadors of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Cuba, the UAE, and Madagascar, met with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi yesterday. During the meeting Mr Musavi inquired about the situation in the area of their missions. He said of the ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Third World countries: Because the policy of ties with the Third World is supported by the Council of Ministers, in our Third World dealings we should bear in mind that the purchase of goods from these countries is of great importance to us, even if similar goods are to be found in such countries as the United States, for instance, at cheap prices!

Recalling the extraordinary importance of bringing the hearts of the ambassadors of the Islamic Republic closer to the peoples languishing under oppression, the prime minister said: The truth remains that no compromise whatsoever with world arrogance is thinkable to our revolution. This statement reflects not merely the wish of our officials but the political realities prevailing at home and abroad. Therefore, the unshakable, unalterable, and firm course of the revolution is constantly crying out against inequity. The present traces of this crying out are fully manifested when we notice that the nations in the region, one after another, without any organic or nonorganic link with us, and thanks to their reliance on faith and belief, have harassed imperialism and Zionism to the verge of insanity!

Reaction to Restoration of Egypt, Jordan Relations

Foreign Ministry Condemns Ties

LD262126 Tehran IRNA in English 2013 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept 26, IRNA — Jordan has resumed its relations with Cairo following a severance of diplomatic ties since 1979 with it in the wake of Cairo's joining with the Camp David agreement in 1978.

Iran's Foreign Ministry said in a communique here today the conciliatory move towards Cairo by King Husayn's government aims at pulling out Cairo from her long years of isolation and at "trampling upon the rights of the Palestinians," and later on at "checking the spread of the Islamic revolution in the region."

The Foreign Ministry communique said it is not coincidental the conciliatory moves towards Cairo by Amman are made at a time Egypt is further "solidifying her ties with the regime occupying Jerusalem and also at a (?time of) suspicious junketing by [words indistinct] the arrogant world power [word indistinct] playing

tunes by way of reviving the memory of Reagan's forgotten scheme."

Iran's Foreign Ministry has also warned Muslim nations of the region of "the dangerous consequences" of [words indistinct] and called on them to fight against an imperialist scheme which aims at reconciling the Muslim states with the regime occupying Jerusalem at the cost of betraying the principles for the advancement of which they have led a struggle against the Zionist regime.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry has also called on the Palestinians to fight "against its consequences" and so everything for [words indistinct] hazards to the Muslim world.

Impact of Resumption Examined

GF261949 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Unattributed political talk]

[Excerpts] The Egyptian regime rejoiced to see a new link added to the reactionary Camp David belt [constricting the Middle East region], which includes the Sudanese regime. Washington rejoiced because it found in the Jordanian decision to restore the severed relations with the Mubarak regime a good initiative that will drive other Arab regimes to follow Jordan's step and restore their diplomatic relations with Husni Mubarak. Washington also rejoiced because this initiative came at a very sensitive time, since the Islamic region just witnessed the shaking of the U.S. role by the popular opposition armed with booby-trapped vehicles. The Saddamist regime and other reactionary regimes rejoiced at the Jordanian decision because it will be a bridge to Cairo with good diplomatic relations.

The Zionist enemy was the happiest of all with the Jordanian decision because it signifies other things. The return to Egypt means a return to Camp David which in turn means recognition of the Israeli entity and agreement to negotiate with it at one table. This is a deal with substantial profits. The direct benefactors of the Jordanian decision are those who celebrated yesterday with their radios, which related the happy facts of the game between Jordan and Cairo and New York, where the foreign ministers of Egypt, Iraq, the United States, and Israel were waiting for the news in order to amend their statements and the sweet words appropriate to the event.

The Islamic masses, which were not surprised by the decision, once again witnessed the fabrications practiced by some Arab rulers.

The question asked by the masses is: What will happen after the Jordanian decision? Will this decision be confined only to the Jordanian and Egyptian regimes or will it be a start of a series of decisions and plans in this direction? Analysts have various expectations regarding the events soon to take place. One of these expectations is the participation of the Jordanian regime in the Zionist peace game and the resumption of the political solution to the Palestinian problem on the basis of the Jordanian-Palestinian confederation. Another expectation is that Saddam Husayn's regime will follow the steps of its Jordanian ally, restore relations with Egypt and adopt the same measures as the Jordanian king. This means the completion of the remaining parts of the policy adopted by the United States in the Islamic region. The belt beginning in Sudan and ending in Iraq, after passing through Egypt and the Israeli entity, has become a fact and only needs to be declared. It seems that the time has come to bring it out of hiding and make it public.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,862

LD261802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced in its Communique No 1,862 yesterday that in the west and northwest operational sectors, exchanges of fire continued along the frontlines between the combatants of Islam and the mercenary Saddamist troops. The intensity of fire was greater at Nowsud and Nowdsheh. Our forces stationed in the operational sectors of Piranshah, Sar Dasht, Hajj 'Umran, Marivan, Panjwin and the border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam fired on enemy tank and artillery positions, motorized columns, supply routes, fortifications, complexes and units in each front. They prevented enemy logistical operations and movements and halted the Iraqi forces' engineering operations and the completion of new positions. By locating and pursuing enemy patrol groups, our fighters forced them away from our protected regions.

In the southern operational sector, sporadic exchanges of fire continued along the entire defensive lines. Exchanges of fire were greater at Jufayr, Majnun and Zayd. West of the Arvand Rud two weapons positions and an enemy assembly point were set on fire.

Foreign Ministry Submits Protest Note to Afghanistan

LD260948 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Following the increasing number of mujahidin attacks in various parts of Afghanistan, particularly Kabul, the Afghan ruling regime, in order to divert public attention from these attacks, has stepped-up its feeble activities along its borders with neighboring Muslim countries, particularly Iran.

In connection with the recent feeble activities by the Afghan regime on the border with Iran, our country's Foreign Ministry has submitted a note of protest to the Afghan regime. Referring to an incident last week on the border region near Zabol, which resulted in loss of life and property, the Foreign Ministry warned that a repitition of these incidents would result in decisive reaction by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Exploitation of Seized Iraqi Oil Fields Planned

LD262057 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 26, IRNA — The Islamic Republic is preparing to exploit oil-rich areas southeast of Iraq which it

seized in an offensive against the Iraqi forces last February. Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi said measures were underway to dry up the Huwayzah marshlands surrounding the man-made Iraqi Majnun Islands and "will start producing oil, Inshallah."

The area was captured by the Iranian Muslim forces in Operation Kheybar (Began February 22) and has oil resources estimated at eight billion barrels.

Ghazari who was speaking at a press conference Wednesday, said four years of war, including recent Iraqi air strikes agaisnt Iranian oil installations, had not forced the termination of even a single [one] of its oil contracts.

"What the Islamic Republic is saying is logical that the enemy (Iraq) has been disappointed from stopping Iran's oil production and exports in the war."

"What we have learned at the Oil Ministry in this war is how to produce and export oil under enemy bullets."

Two hundred Oil Ministry personnel have been martyred since the start of the war, he said. He denied that Iran's 50 percent cut in its oil production was because of Iraqi pressure and said the move was aimed at preventing a collapse in the oil price and strengthening OPEC. On the other hand, the minister said Iraqi attacks had set ablaze oil storage tanks at Khark Island on a number of occasions but even at such times oil exports had gone ahead.

"If Saddam Husayn was able to attack Khark, he would have done so by now. Just as we were not worried by Saddam Husayn's attack against Iran four years ago, we are not worried now," Gharazi said.

Asked how Iran would earn foreign exchange if it closed the Strait of Hormuz, Gharazi said the survival of the Islamic Revolution was not and would not be dependent on oil exports but if in such an event "we know how to export oil and acquire foreign exchange."

The oil minister also denied that the Islamic Republic ever sold oil below official OPEC prices. But he said facilities other than price-cuts were considered in dealing with some Third World countries. Gharazi said Iran should export its oil to countries which exported their goods to this country. At the same time, he added, Iran should not import from a country with foreign exchange acquired from another.

On whether work in a joint Iran-Japan petrochemical plant in southern Iran would be halted, he said: "Work never stops in the Islamic Republic."

Atomic Energy Chief Addresses IAEA Vienna Meeting

LD261301 Tehran IRNA in English 1304 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Vienna, Sept. 26, IRNA — The head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation, Reza Amrollahi, reiterated expulsion of the Zionist regime from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Wednesday.

Amrollahi, head of an Iranian delegation to the annual IAEA meeting, in an address to the session, outlined peaceful employment of nuclear energy. During the past five years, he noted, the West and the East have not hesitated to conjure up any conspiracy to kneel down the Islamic Republic of Iran. [sentence as received]

But, he stressed, in spite of all such provocations, the Islamic Republic of Iran could prove, at least within the IAEA, that it unconditionally supports the freedom of the countries from the captivity of the superpowers. He emphasised that as long as the Zionist regime remained an IAEA member and the superpowers attempted to abuse the offices of the agency for the achievement of their own interests, it could not be pretended that the agency had no political inclinations.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran attaches great importance to the international cooperation leading to the peaceful use of nuclear energy," Amrollahi said, adding that all countries were entitled to make efforts for such a cooperation.

In another part of his speech, the Iranian official said that since the Third World countries were the main suppliers of raw materials to the industrial world, utilisation and access to the technology of the industrial countries by the Third World states should not be subjected to any condition or restriction. He then referred to the prevention of supply of the purchased fuel for the 5-mw nuclear research reactor of Iran's atomic energy organisation and added that this was one example of disregard of international agreements on peaceful application of nuclear energy by U.S. imperialism.

"This illegal restriction imposed by the U.S. has caused severe limitations on the research activities of our scientists related to the production of radioisotopes for medical and agricultural applications."

Referring to the huge bulk of nuclear weapons stored in the arsenals of the U.S., the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China, Amrollahi said that if only a small portion of the total nuclear arsenals were to be deployed in strategic warfare then severe cold, darkness, radioactivity, pyrotoxins and ultra-violet radiations will be a few consequences which would subsequently destroy all types of life on the earth.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that as long as the international organisations, the IAEA in particular, do not adopt appropriate measures or sanctions in the face of atrocities which threaten the peaceful application of nuclear energy, there shall be no guarantee that such events will not be repeated in the future — events which threaten world peace and the credibility of the agency."

The Islamic Republic, he stressed, called on all member-states to exert their utmost efforts for the implementation of international regulations related to the prohibition of military attacks against nuclear installations intended for peaceful purposes.

Air Force Commander on Aircraft Repairs, Parts

LD261008 Tehran IRNA in English 0937 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Esfahan, Sept. 26, IRNA — All repairs on the fighter planes of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Air Force are being done inside the country and with Iranian manpower, said one of the commanders of the Air Force units in Esfahan here today.

The Air Force unit commander, who was interviewed on the occasion of the war week, further added that most of the spare parts of the fighters were also being produced domestically. However, prior to the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution, the American experts were in charge of maintenance of the planes and even exchange of parts was done by them.

On the training of pilots, he said in the post-revolutionary period, several training courses conducted by the Iranian instructors have been completed. The Iraqi-imposed war has made the Air Force personnel become more innovative and has increased their skill to a point that at present the Air Force pilots are conducting nine and a half hours of flight a day and in the war zones. In conclusion, he described the morale of military personnel as high.

Computer-Guided Artillery Devices Developed

LD252003 Tehran IRNA in English 1838 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Esfahan, Sept. 25, IRNA — Military specialists at the Esfahan artillery training centre have developed computer devices for guiding artillery shells and for artillery mapping.

Colonel Sattari, the commander of the centre, told IRNA the devices were not used in the Iranian Armed Forces previously but had been made to meet needs in the battlefronts. The devices, developed with the cooperation of electronic industries in Iran, were currently being used in the war, he said. The commander said the centre had also produced 100 different disposable spare parts for the Armed Forces' weaponry and equipment with the help of the Esfahan steel plant and other Iranian experts.

Iranian technicians did not have the right to repair their military equipment previously and were obliged to send them to the foreign manufacturer, but he said many repairs were now being conducted at the centre, some of them of important significance.

Ayatollah Shirazi Dies of Heart Attack

GF270644 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Sep 84

[Excerpts] It is with great sorrow that we have learned that the revered Grand Ayatollah Haj Seyyed Abdollah Shirazi died of a heart attack last night at the age of 95 and has met with the blessings of the Almighty. Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, issued the following message of condolence:

In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. We belong to God and to him we return. The death of Ayatollah Haj Seyyed Abdollah Shirazi is a great sorrow. The existence of such religious and spiritual personalities who are engaged in struggle aginst the leaders of heresy and oppression is of great value for seminaries and a support for the country. Their loss is a loss for the world of Muslims. I offer condolences to the family of the deceased and pray for them. I pray for God's blessings on this exalted person.

1 Moharram 1405, Ruhollah Musavi-Khomeyni.

The burial ceremony for the Ayatollah Abdollah Shirazi will be held in Mashhad at 0900 tomorrow, Friday.

Tehran Bomb Explosions Wound 3 Pedestrians

LD261519 Tehran IRNA in English 1504 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept 26, IRNA — Two time bombs blasted one after the other under parked cars near Evin hotel in uptown Tehran Wednesday monring. In this desperate move by counter-revolutionary elements, three passers-by were slightly injured, and the two cars and a motor-bike were totally wrecked.

The first one was concealed inside a Chevrolet and the other one hidden underneath a Gallant parked in the same area. The injured passers-by were shortly released from a nearby hospital.

Parliamentary Delegation Departs for Geneva Conference

LD220848 Tehran IRNA in English 0725 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 22, IRNA — An Iranian parliamentary delegation headed by vice-speaker of the Majlis, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Yazdi, left here for Geneva Saturday morning to take part in the 72nd session of the inter-parliamentary conference. Prior to his departure, Hojjat ol-Eslam Yazdi said that during the session stances of the Islamic Republic towards various economic, political and social issues at internaitonal level would be outlined. Of course, he added, Iran's stance towards certain issues such as apartheid, which was totally rejected by Islam, was clear. In addition to the issues included in the agenda, other subjects would be discussed at opportune times, including the plan for the expulsion of the Zionist regime from the U.N., he said.

Another important subject to be discussed in the conference is the Iraqi-imposed war and measures taken by the Iraqi regime contrary to international regulations such as deployment of chemical weapons and attacks on residential areas.